SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know whether any woman was placed in the executive line on general duty, and if so, what the opinion of the Government about her work is? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" There is one woman in the Indian Administrative Service, who is now, I think, working as a Revenue Divisional Officer. The reports are that she is doing very well."

SRI P. G. MANICKAM :—" கெஜட் பதிவு அதிகாரிகளில் ஹரிஜனப் பெண்கள் எத்தனை பேர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள் ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I do not have the figures communitywar."

SRI K. T. RAJU :—" கெஜட் பதிவு அதிகாரிகளில் அநேகம் பெண்கள் இருப்பதாலும் அவர்கள் நன்றாக வேலை பார்ப்பதாகச் சொல்லுவதாலும் இன்னும் அதிகப்படியான பெண்களை நியமிக்க சர்க்காருக்கு உத்தேசம் உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We have only one woman in the Indian Administrative Service. She is doing quite well. We do not know whether it is the rule or the exception. We have to wait a little. But the major number of women employees are in the Medical Department and it is nothing surprising."

SRI G. GOVINDAN :—" பெண்களை அதிகமாக வேலையில் நியமிக்கிறார்களே அதனால் ஆண்களுக்கு வேலையில்லாமல் போய்விடுமே, அதற்கு சர்க்கார் எதாவது எற்பாடு செய்கிறார்களா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Then, women will maintain their husbands, Sir."

Construction of Kudappathu reservoir, Gingee taluk.

* 489 Q.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct Kudappathu reservoir at Sevalapurai village in the Sankaraparni river in Gingee taluk, South Arcot district; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the proposal stands now?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) Gaugings of the river flows were taken over a period of two years (1950–52) for formulating a scheme, but owing to continued unprecedented drought up to 1952 the results were not of any value. It has, therefore, been found necessary to continue the observations for a couple of years of normal rainfall before assessing the feasibility of the scheme."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I ask, Sir, why not the Government take the usual rainfall into consideration and begin the construction of the Kudappathu reservoir? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Up to 1952, drought conditions prevailed in that

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area and the gaugings that have been taken after that, are not sufficient enough data for proceeding with the scheme. Thereafter the economics of the scheme, the objections raised by the French Government—all these things were there. The hon. Member may have a little patience.''

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—'' There is a reading for every region to note the normal rainfall. Therefore, why not that rainfall be taken into consideration for this purpose? ''

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—'' This is only reiterating the question, Sir. I said two more years' reading is necessary before we can proceed and there are further more details to be considered.''

Surcharge in respect of the stocks of paddy and rice procured in Tanjore district.

*490 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount collected as surcharge for rice bags from the fair price shop dealers through wholesale dealers in Tanjore district during the year 1952–53; and

(*b*) the reasons for collecting such surcharge?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—'' (*a*) It is presumed that the information required by the hon. Member is for the financial year 1952–53, i.e., for the period from 1st April 1952 to 31st March 1953 only. During the period from 1st April 1952 to 31st March 1953, a total sum of Rs. 37,34,774 was collected as surcharge in Tanjore district made up of (i) an *administrative surcharge* of Rs. 12,13,981 in respect of the stocks of paddy and rice procured and disposed of locally in the district and (ii) a *subsidy surcharge* of Rs. 25,20,793 in respect of the stocks of paddy and rice procured and issued for internal consumption.

'' (*b*) The administrative surcharge is levied with a view to cover the cost of the food administration of the State.

'' The subsidy surcharge collected during 1952–53 was intended to recoup losses incurred by this Government on imported rice other than that supplied to the four industrial towns of Madras, Madurai, Coimbatore and Visakhapatnam which was sold at rates fixed by the Government of India. This loss was recouped by adding to the price of rice distributed by the Madras Government in the State.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—'' Industrial cities அதாவது கோயம்பத்தூர், மதறாஸ் போன்ற பெரிய நகரங்களில் உள்ள தொழிலாளிகளுக்கு அரிசி விலையைக் குறைத்துக் கொடுப்பதற்கு கிராமங்களில் தாம் உற்பத்தி செய்யும் நெல் போதாமல் வாங்கிச் சாப்பிடக்கூடிய விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து அரிசியை வாங்கிக் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். அவ்விதம் ஏழை விவசாயிகளிடமிருந்து குறைந்த விலைக்கு வசூல் செய்வது நியாயமா ? ''